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DAWLISH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
and the  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
for the Year

1966

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H. M. DAVIES,  
M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
ASSISTANT COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER:  
DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL.  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:  
ASHBURTON U.D.C.  
DAWLISH U.D.C.  
NEWTON ABBOT R.D.C.  
NEWTON ABBOT U.D.C.  
TEIGNMOUTH U.D.C. AND  
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

TELEPHONE No. NEWTON ABBOT 3991

6/8 SHERBORNE ROAD,

NEWTON ABBOT.

DAWLISH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT - 1966

To: The Chairman  
and Members of the Dawlish Urban District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present my Report for the year ended 31st December, 1966, together with that of the Public Health Inspector.

The vital statistics regarding the births and deaths, which occurred during the year, once again conform fairly well with the figures which are applicable both to the County of Devon and to the total population of England and Wales. The figures which, of course, have to be considered are the corrected live birth rates and the corrected death rates. The difference between the crude rate and the corrected rate is dependent on a formula produced by the Registrar General. This takes into account the differences in the age groups, which occur from area to area. In this area it is very obvious that we have a higher population of elderly people than one would find in the industrial areas of the country and adjustment is made accordingly.

Regarding Infectious Diseases, conditions continue to be highly satisfactory and only twenty-five cases were notified during the year, as opposed to the one hundred and ninety-two which occurred in 1965. This fall is due almost entirely to the fact that 1966 was a year of low incidence of Measles, whereas 1965 was an epidemic year. It is of interest to note that Measles normally appears in epidemic form in alternate years.

I would point out that no cases of Tuberculosis, Smallpox, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Typhoid, Para-Typhoid or Poliomyelitis occurred in 1966. It is the first time that Tuberculosis has not appeared in your Annual Report,



either as a new case or as a cause of death. This is quite remarkable when one considers the incidence of this disease say only ten years ago.

These figures are, of course, characteristic of what one finds throughout the country, but they are achieved only by paying full attention to the various preventative measures, which have to be taken. These measures require to be continually pointed out if these happy conditions are to continue as they are, or to be improved still further.

With reference to the ages at which death has occurred in the one hundred and forty-three deaths reported during the year, sixty-six were in respect of persons age seventy-five or over.

I have, from time to time, reported on the difficulties which arise in dealing with old people. These matters have been brought to my attention much more forcibly since my part-time appointment in April, 1966, as Clinical Assistant to the Geriatric Department of the Newton Abbot Hospital. I have recently written a letter to the British Medical Journal, of which the following is an extract:-

'There is, I think, an urgent need for the medical and other requirements of the aged to be rationalized. At the present time the services provided by the Local Authorities are usually subdivided into two parts—one ruled by the Medical Officer of Health dealing with the domiciliary services, health visiting, home nursing, chiropody, etc., the other by the Chief Welfare Officer and his separate staffs running the Local Authority Welfare Homes.'

From the point of view of the family Doctor, and in an emergency the Medical Officer of Health, difficulties arise in assessing whether an old person requires a bed in an Old People's Home, a Geriatric Hospital, or a Mental Hospital. The beds in each are controlled by different people and more often than not the liaison between these people is less than it might be. Not only are patients sometimes sent to unsuitable accommodation in the first place, but transfers from one type of bed to another are far from the simple administrative manoeuvres that one would expect them to be.

Somehow, and as a matter of urgency, the facilities available for the old people must be integrated, or at least co-ordinated, if the best uses of the available resources are to be made. The suggestion that

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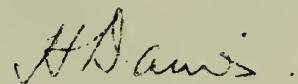
<https://archive.org/details/b29153839>

a Senior Doctor, from either the Hospital or the Local Authority Service, should be responsible for this co-ordination is long overdue!.

This letter was published on the 5th August, 1967.

During the year work has commenced on the Northern Area Sewerage Scheme, which should be of the greatest benefit to the residents and holiday makers in the Warren area.

I should like to thank, once again, the Chairman, Councillors and all members of the staff for the help and co-operation received.



Medical Officer of Health

October, 1967.



## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres).....	5,380
Population mid 1966.....	7,820
Population 1961 Census.....	7,803
Rateable Value as at the 1st January, 1966.....	£290,739
Rateable Value as at the 31st December, 1966.....	£300,416
Product of 1d rate - 1966/1967.....	£1,188

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Live Births

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	47	39	86
Illegitimate	3	1	4
	—	—	—
	50	40	90
	—	—	==

Crude Live Birth rate per 1000 total population	11.50
Corrected Live Birth rate per 1000 total population	15.52
Crude Live Birth rate per 1000 total population - Administrative County of Devon	14.56
Corrected Live Birth rate per 1000 total population - Administrative County of Devon	17.62
Live Birth rate per 1000 total population - England and Wales	17.7
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)	4.44

### Stillbirths

No stillbirths occurred in Dawlish during 1966.	
Stillbirth rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths - Administrative County of Devon	12.08
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	15.4



### Deaths

The average age at death from all causes was found to be 70.55 years. The average age of all male deaths was 66.55 years and for female deaths 73.56 years.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	65	78	143
Crude Death rate per 1000 total population			18.28
Corrected Death rate per 1000 total population			13.34
Crude Death rate per 1000 total population - Administrative County of Devon			15.10
Corrected Death rate per 1000 total population - Administrative County of Devon			9.06
Death rate per 1000 total population - England and Wales			11.7

### Infant Mortality

(Deaths of Infants under one year)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Infant Mortality rate per 1000 related live births			33.33
Infant Mortality rate - Administrative County of Devon			17.73
Corresponding rate for England and Wales			19.0
Legitimate Infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births			34.88

### Neonatal Mortality

(Deaths of Infants under four weeks)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Neonatal Mortality rate per 1000 related live births			33.33
Neonatal Mortality rate - Administrative County of Devon			11.49
Corresponding rate for England and Wales			12.9



Perinatal Mortality

(Deaths of Infants under one week)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Perinatal Mortality rate (Stillbirths and Deaths of Infants under one week) per 1000 live and stillbirths - Administrative County of Devon 21.02  
 Corresponding rate for England and Wales 26.3

Maternal Mortality

One maternal death occurred in Dawlish during 1966.

Three maternal deaths occurred within the Administrative County of Devon.

AGE AT DEATH

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Infants under four weeks	3	-
Four weeks and under one year	-	-
1 - 4	-	-
5 - 14	-	-
15 - 24	3	-
25 - 34	3	1
35 - 44	3	2
45 - 54	8	4
55 - 64	7	9
65 - 74	17	17
75 and over	21	45
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	65	78
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Total: 143



CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Syphilitic Disease	1	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	3	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	7	5
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	1
Diabetes	-	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	8	8
Coronary Disease, Angina	18	12
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	1
Other Heart Disease	9	17
Other Circulatory Disease	-	4
Pneumonia	1	3
Bronchitis	4	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	1
Congenital Malformations	2	-
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	5	10
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-
All Other Accidents	2	3
Suicide	-	1
	65	78

Total: 143



INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Measles	8	5	13
Pneumonia	3	5	8
Sonne Dysentery	-	2	2
Whooping Cough	2	-	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	13	12	25
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

TUBERCULOSIS

No cases of Tuberculosis were notified during 1966.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

In no case was Official action, under Section 47 of the National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951, necessary during 1966.

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DAWLISH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
1966

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Public Health Inspector :

L.A. Pickthall, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,  
Cert. S.I.E.J.B., Cert.Meat Inspector.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Dawlish Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my seventh Annual Report to you for the year 1966.

During the year I have continued to maintain a 100% meat inspection service at both the Private Slaughterhouses in the District.

Considerable progress was made in dealing with unfit houses in anticipation of the proposed flats at Churchill Avenue. The majority of the really sub-standard houses have now been dealt with.

Most of the initial inspections under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act were completed and in over 90% of the premises contraventions were found.

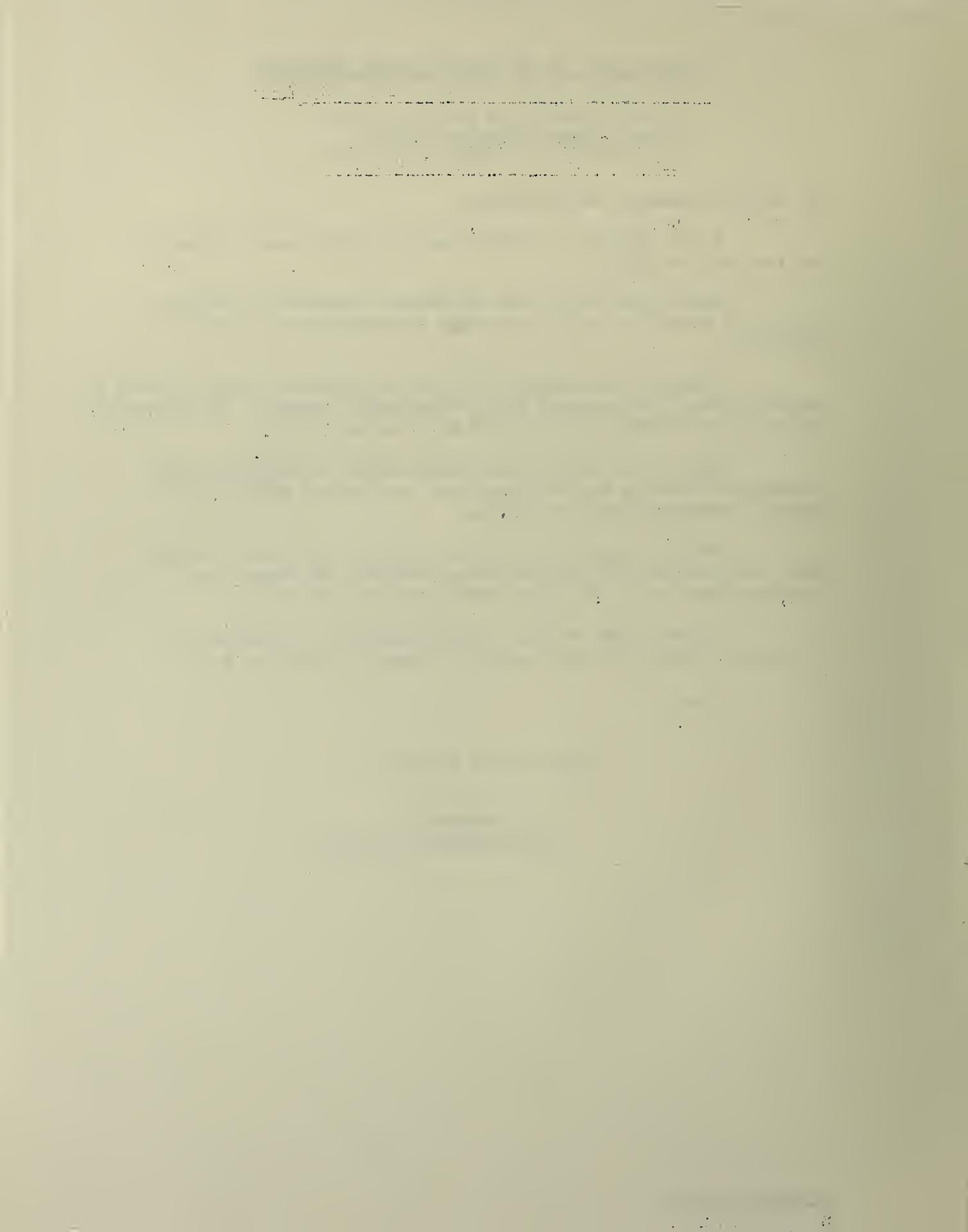
Routine inspections of food premises, factories, schools etc., were carried out, details being listed in the body of my report together with all other environmental health matters.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Council once again for their unfailing support during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

L.A. PICKTHALL,  
Public Health Inspector.



SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

The following information has been supplied by the Joint Engineer to the South West Devon Water Board, Mr. W.F. White, M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E., M.I.Struct.E.

(a) Source of Public Supply.

All the water is obtained from the upland catchment area at Thorns and augmented during the summer months from a lowland pumped source at Duckaller.

(b) Distribution.

From both the above sources, the supply is taken to a filtration and storage plant at Burrows Reservoir situated above the town, from whence distribution is made of the treated water to all parts of the Urban District.

Water is supplied to 2,555 dwelling houses with an estimated population of 7,800.

(c) Quantity.

The total quantity of water supplied up to the 31st December, 1966, amounted to 109,310,000 gallons, an average of 300,000 gallons per day.

(d) Quality of Supply.

The supply to the town is dosed with sulphate of alumina, precipitated, gravity filtered and the natural acidity and induced acidity is corrected by a lime dose followed by the application of gaseous chlorine. The protection of the gathering ground and entry of unauthorised persons was given close attention.

2. WATER SAMPLING.

30 samples of water were taken. 1 sample contained B. Coli in a 100ml. and was thus unsatisfactory.

3. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Sewage flows to three Disintegrator Stations situated at Holcombe, The Railway Viaduct and Sea Lawn. Two of these disintegrators are of the continuous rotary-drum screen type.

The disintegrated sewage from the Viaduct and Sea Lawn Stations is taken to sea by outfall near Black Bridge. The Holcombe discharge enters the sea at a point below the rocks at Holcombe.

4. REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Refuse is disposed of at the Council Tip situated at Shutterton Bridge, Exeter Road.

Constant treatments were carried out during 1966 to reduce the fly and rodent infestations.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Number of inspections made	:	109
Number of Preliminary Notices served	:	67
Number of re-inspections made	:	290
Number of Notices complied with	:	72

2. DISINFESTATION.

21 premises were treated for wasp infestation.  
2 premises were treated for hornet infestation.  
5 premises were treated for cockroach infestation.  
1 premises was treated for ant infestation.  
3 premises were treated for bed-bug infestation.  
1 premises was treated for swarming fly infestation.  
1 premises was treated for flea infestation.

3. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Rodent Control.

In accordance with the instructions issued by the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, 10 per cent of the sewers in the district are test baited annually. Evidence of infestation was found only in the Cockwood area where subsequent treatments were carried out.

Treatments to private houses were made free of charge, but business premises charged at the rate of 10s. Od. per hour.

	Type of Property.				TOTAL
	Council's Property	Dwelling House	Agriculture	Business	
No. of properties inspected	11	15	-	8	34
No. found to be infested by rats	11	6	-	7	24
No. seriously infested by mice	-	9	-	1	10
No. of properties treated	11	15	-	8	34

4. CARAVAN SITES AND HOLIDAY CAMPS.

(a) Total number of visits made to all sites : 81

(b) Number of site licences operating as at 31st December, 1966.

(i) Individual

(ii) Multiple (more than 3)

(c) Total number of caravans

Privately Owned Sites	
Residential	Holiday
11	15
2	-
9	15
81	979

(d) Total number of sites as at 31st December, 1966

(e) Number of caravans

Local Authority Sites	
Residential	Holiday
Nil	1
Nil	40 (Average)

5. TENTED CAMPING SITES.

(a) Number of licensed sites as at 31st December, 1966

(b) Number of tent pitches

(c) Number of unlicensed sites in regular use during the year

(d) Approximate number of tent pitches

(e) Number of sites of all kinds having satisfactory :-

(i) Water Supply

(ii) Sanitary accommodation

(iii) Washing facilities

(iv) Refuse facilities

Private	Local Authority
3	2
510	120
1	-
10	-
3	2
3	2
3	2
3	2

5. HOUSING ACTS.  
Unfit Houses.

Number of dwelling-houses surveyed	:	7
Number of houses represented to the Council as being unfit for human habitation	:	7
Number of undertakings accepted	:	2
Number of closing orders made	:	2
Number of demolition orders made	:	2
Number of closing orders revoked and demolition orders substituted	:	13
Number of houses demolished following demolition orders	:	1
Number of people displaced (a) Individuals	:	-
(b) Families	:	-
Number of Notices served under Repairs Section	:	-
Number of housing re-inspections	:	104
Number of houses made fit as a result of official representation	:	2

Certificates of Disrepair.

Number of certificates issued	:	-
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Applicants for Council Houses.

Number of visits made	:	56
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Financial Provisions, Act 1958.

Number of inspections made	:	1
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7. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

Registrations and General Inspections.

Class of premises	Number of Premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	-	25	2
Retail Shops	1	82	6
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	28	4
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
Totals	1	135	12

## 7. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963 (CONT'D).

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace.

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed.
Offices	114
Retail Shops	267
Wholesale departments, warehouses	-
Catering establishments open to the public	187
Canteens	-
Fuel Storage Depots	-
Total	567 .....
Total Males	183
Total Females	384

Analysis of Contraventions:

<u>Contraventions</u> <u>in respect of :</u>	<u>Found:</u>
<u>Section 4.</u> Cleanliness	1
<u>Section 5.</u> Overcrowding	-
<u>Section 6.</u> Temperature	1
<u>Section 7.</u> Ventilation	-
<u>Section 8.</u> Lighting	1
<u>Section 9.</u> Sanitary Conveniences	4
<u>Section 10.</u> Washing Facilities	5
<u>Section 11.</u> Supply of Drinking Water	2
<u>Section 12.</u> Accommodation for clothing	2

7. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963 (CONT'D).

Analysis of Contraventions (Cont'd).

<u>Contraventions in respect of :</u>	<u>Found :</u>
<u>Section 13.</u> Sitting Facilities	-
<u>Section 14.</u> Seats for sedentary Workers	-
<u>Section 15.</u> Eating Facilities	-
<u>Section 16.</u> Floor, passages, stairs	-
<u>Section 17.</u> Fencing of exposed parts of machinery	1
<u>Section 18.</u> Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-
<u>Section 19.</u> Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	-
<u>Section 23.</u> Prohibition of heavy work	-
<u>Section 24.</u> First Aid General Provisions	2
 <u>Total</u>	 20

Number of re-inspections	:	100
Number of Notices complied with	:	24
Number of inspections re registrations	:	1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. MEAT INSPECTION.

Animals Slaughtered and Inspected and Particulars of Condemnations.

	CATTLE (Except Cows)	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP and LAMBS	PIGS	HORSES
NUMBER KILLED	570	6	46	7240	1122	-
NUMBER INSPECTED	570	6	46	7240	1122	-
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI						
(a) Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	6	8	-
(b) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	71	-	-	180	52	-
PERCENTAGE OF THE NUMBER INSPECTED AFFECTED WITH DISEASE OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI	12.45	0.00	0.00	2.51	5.34	-
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
(a) Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
PERCENTAGE OF THE NUMBER INSPECTED AFFECTED WITH TUBERCULOSIS	-	-	-	-	1.96	-
CYSTICERCOSIS						
(a) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	20	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Carcases submitted to treatment by refriger- eration	4	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total Weight of Condemned Meat - 3684½ lbs.

Number of Visits to Slaughter-Houses - 380.

## 2. SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Slaughtering during the whole of the year took place at two private slaughterhouses :-

Hensford Farm, Dawlish.

Stockton Road, Dawlish,

## 3. INSPECTION OF OTHER FOODS.

The following foodstuffs were examined and condemned as being unfit for human consumption :-

237 lbs. 1 oz. Assorted Tinned Food.  
67 lbs. 2 ozs. Tinned Ham.  
16 lbs. 0 ozs. Tinned Pork.

## 4. DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD.

Condemned meat from the slaughterhouses is disposed of by the butchers to a bye-product manufacturing firm, who also arrange transport. Certain condemned offal is disposed of to a mink breeder in the district.

All other condemned food stuffs are disposed of under supervision at the Council's Refuse Tip.

## 5. INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Number of various food premises in the district :-

General Provision Shops/		
Green Grocers	:	37
Restaurants, cafes and	:	
Snack Bars	:	25
Fishmongers/Shellfish		
Kiosks	:	3
Fried Fish Shops	:	2
Butchers	:	7
Confectionery Shops	:	7
Bake Houses	:	3
Mobile Food Shops and		
Vehicles	:	4
Licensed Premises	:	22
Hotels/Boarding Houses	:	72
School Canteens	:	4
Holiday Camp Shops	:	9
Convalescent Homes	:	3

Number of inspections of food premises :-

Type of Premises.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Notices Served.
General Provision Shops	65	8
Confectionery Shops	17	4
Bakehouses	4	1
Fishmongers	11	2
Cafes/Restaurants	50	3
Fried Fish Shops	1	-
Hotels/Boarding Houses	25	3
Butchers Shops	37	3
School Canteens	5	3
Food Vehicle	1	-
Snack Bars/Kiosks	15	1
Licensed Premises	42	6
Greengrocery Shops	5	1
Shell Fish Kiosk	1	-
Convalescent Home	2	1
Multiple Store	4	-
	285	36

Number of re-inspections of food premises : 93

Number of Notices complied with : 36

6. MILK AND DAIRIES.

Brucella Abortus.

Following notification from the County Medical Officer of a report from the Public Health Laboratory on Brucella Abortus isolated from a sample of raw milk which was taken from a farm in the District, instructions were given to the farmer to send his milk for pasteurising until the reactor was found by eliminating sampling and testing.

7. ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947/1963.

3 samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and the results were :-

3 = Grade I (Satisfactory).

8. MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1959.

Number of visits re registration as a Dairy : 7

9. SAMPLING.

Following a complaint, a sample of butter was submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. The results indicated that the sample was genuine butter and quite satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT  
OF THE YEAR 1966.

FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF DALGLISH IN THE COUNTY OF DEVON.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the  
Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVISION AS TO HEALTH (INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR).

	No. on Register	Number of :-		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which S. 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by L/A	2	3	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which S.7 is enforced by the L/A	16	18	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which S.7 is enforced by the L/A (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS :</b>	18	21	3	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

	No. of Cases in which Defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Reme-died	To H.M. Insp	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of Cleanliness S.1	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding S.2	-	-	-	-	-
Reasonable Temperature S.3	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation S.4	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of floors S.6	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences S.7	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS :	5	5	-	-	-

No cases of outwork being carried on in unwholesome premises have been found, and consequently Table 3 has not been included.

